

General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2006

LCO No. 5682

HB0584605682SR0

Offered by:

SEN. FASANO, 34th Dist.

SEN. GUGLIELMO, 35th Dist.

SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th Dist.

SEN. GUNTHER, 21st Dist.

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SEN. HERLIHY, 8th Dist.

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SEN. DELUCA, 32nd Dist.

SEN. NICKERSON, 36th Dist.

SEN. FREEDMAN, 26th Dist.

SEN. RORABACK, 30th Dist.

To: House Bill No. **5846** File No. Cal. No.

(As Amended)

"AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF BUDGETED STATE AGENCIES WITH RESPECT TO THE EXPENDITURES OF SUCH AGENCIES IN RELATION TO PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED OR SERVICES PROVIDED BY SUCH AGENCIES."

- 1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
- 2 internal references accordingly:
- 3 "Sec. 501. Section 8-193 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage and
- 5 applicable to property acquired on or after said date):
- 6 (a) After approval of the development plan as provided in this 7 chapter, the development agency may proceed by purchase, lease,

8 exchange or gift with the acquisition or rental of real property within 9 the project area and real property and interests therein for rights-of-10 way and other easements to and from the project area.

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- (b) (1) The development agency may, with the approval of the legislative body in accordance with this subsection, and in the name of the municipality, acquire by eminent domain real property located within the project area and real property and interests therein for rights-of-way and other easements to and from the project area, in accordance with subsection (e) of this section and in the same manner that a redevelopment agency may acquire real property under sections 8-128 to 8-133, inclusive, as if said sections specifically applied to development agencies, except that no real property may be acquired by eminent domain pursuant to this subsection for the sole purpose of increasing local tax revenue. The legislative body shall not approve the use of eminent domain by the development agency unless the legislative body has (A) considered the benefits to the public and any private entity that will result from the development project and determined that the public benefits outweigh any private benefits, (B) determined that the current use of the real property cannot be feasibly integrated into the overall development plan, and (C) determined that the acquisition of the real property by eminent domain is reasonably necessary to successfully achieve the objectives of the development plan.
- (2) Before the legislative body approves any acquisition by eminent domain pursuant to this section, the legislative body shall conduct a public hearing on the acquisition. The municipality shall cause notice of the time, place and subject of the hearing to be published in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the municipality not more than ten days before the date set for the hearing. Notice of the time, place and subject of the hearing shall also be sent by first class mail to the owners of record of the real property to be acquired by eminent domain not less than ten days before the date of the hearing.
- 40 (3) (A) No parcel of real property may be acquired by eminent

41 domain under this section except by approval by vote of at least two-

- 42 thirds of the members of the legislative body of the municipality or, in
- 43 the case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town
- 44 meeting or a representative town meeting, the board of selectmen.
- 45 Such approval shall be by (i) separate vote on each parcel of real
- 46 property to be acquired, or (ii) vote on one or more groups of such
- 47 parcels, provided each parcel to be acquired is identified for the
- 48 purposes of a vote on a group of such parcels under this
- 49 subparagraph.
- 50 (B) The municipality shall cause notice of any approved acquisition
- 51 under this subdivision to be published in a newspaper having a
- 52 <u>substantial circulation in the municipality not more than ten days after</u>
- 53 <u>such approval.</u>
- 54 (4) No parcel of real property may be acquired by eminent domain
- 55 more than five years after the approval of the development plan unless
- 56 the development agency submits documentation to the legislative
- 57 body sufficient for the legislative body to determine that acquisition of
- 58 the parcel is necessary to implement the development plan, except that
- if there is a subsequent material change to the development plan, no
- 60 <u>such parcel of real property may be acquired by eminent domain more</u>
- 61 <u>than five years after the date the material change to the plan is adopted</u>
- 62 unless the development agency submits documentation to the
- 63 <u>legislative body sufficient for the legislative body to determine that the</u>
- 64 <u>acquisition of the parcel is necessary to implement the development</u>
- 65 <u>plan.</u>
- 66 (c) The development agency may, with the approval of the
- 67 legislative body and, of the commissioner if any grants were made by
- 68 the state under section 8-190 or 8-195 for such development project,
- and in the name of such municipality, transfer by sale or lease at fair
- 70 market value or fair rental value, as the case may be, the whole or any
- 71 part of the real property in the project area to any person, in
- 72 accordance with the project plan and such disposition plans as may
- have been determined by the commissioner.

[(b)] (d) A development agency shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to undertake and carry out development plans and development projects, including the power to clear, demolish, repair, rehabilitate, operate, or insure real property while it is in its possession, to make site improvements essential to the preparation of land for its use in accordance with the development plan, to install, construct or reconstruct streets, utilities and other improvements necessary for carrying out the objectives of the development project, and, in distressed municipalities, as defined in section 32-9p, to lend funds to businesses and industries in a manner approved by the commissioner.

(e) (1) On and after the effective date of this section, on the date a certificate of taking is filed pursuant to section 8-129, as amended by this act, for property acquired by eminent domain pursuant to this section, the development agency shall record with the certificate of taking separate findings that itemize the value of the real property and any structures or improvements on the real property so acquired.

(2) (A) If real property acquired on or after the effective date of this section is not used for the purpose for which it was acquired or for some other public use and is subsequently offered for sale, the real property shall be first offered for sale pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision to the person from whom the real property was acquired, or heirs of the person designated pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, if any, for a price not greater than the amount of compensation paid for such real property, after any appeal or settlement, less (i) the value of any structures or improvements removed from the real property by the development agency or its designee after the real property was acquired as set forth in the recorded findings, and (ii) the amount of any depreciation, as defined in section 45a-542z. After the municipality provides notice pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the municipality may not sell such property to a third party unless the municipality has permitted the person or named heirs six months to exercise the right to purchase the property, and an additional six months to finalize the purchase if

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the person or named heirs provide the municipality with notice of intent to purchase the property within the initial six-month period.

(B) For the purposes of any offer of sale pursuant to this subdivision, the municipality shall provide a form to any person whose property is acquired pursuant to this section to permit such person to provide an address for notice of sale to be sent, or to provide the name and address of an agent to receive such notice. Such form shall be designed to permit the person to designate heirs of the person who shall be eligible to purchase such property pursuant to this subdivision. The person or agent shall update information in the form in writing. If the person or agent does not provide or update the information in the form in a manner that permits the municipality to send notice of sale pursuant to this subsection, no such notice shall be required.

Sec. 502. Section 8-189 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The development agency may initiate a development project by preparing a project plan [therefor] in accordance with regulations [of] adopted by the commissioner pursuant to section 8-198. The project plan shall meet an identified public need and include: [(a)] (1) A legal description of the land within the project area; [(b)] (2) a description of the present condition and uses of such land or building; [(c)] (3) a description of the process utilized by the agency to prepare the plan and a description of alternative approaches considered to achieve project objectives; (4) a description of the types and locations of land uses or building uses proposed for the project area; [(d)] (5) a description of the types and locations of present and proposed streets, sidewalks and sanitary, utility and other facilities and the types and locations of other proposed site improvements; [(e)] (6) statements of the present and proposed zoning classification and subdivision status of the project area and the areas adjacent to the project area; [(f)] (7) a plan for relocating project-area occupants; [(g)] (8) a financing plan; [(h)] (9) an administrative plan; [(i)] (10) a marketability and proposed

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land-use study or building use study if required by the commissioner; 141 142 [(j)] (11) appraisal reports and title searches; [(k)] (12) a [statement of] description of the public benefits of the project including, but not 143 limited to, (A) the number of jobs which the development agency 144 145 anticipates would be created by the project; [and] (B) the estimated 146 property tax benefits; (C) the number and types of existing housing 147 units in the municipality in which the project would be located, and in contiguous municipalities, which would be available to employees 148 149 filling such jobs; [and (l)] (D) a general description of infrastructure improvements, including public access, facilities or use, that the 150 151 development agency anticipates may be needed to implement the 152 development plan; (E) a general description of the development 153 agency's goals for blight remediation or, if known, environmental 154 remediation; (F) a general description of any aesthetic improvements 155 that the development agency anticipates may be generated by the 156 project; (G) a general description of the project's intended role in increasing or sustaining market value of land in the municipality; (H) a 157 158 general description of the project's intended role in assisting residents 159 of the municipality to improve their standard of living; and (I) a 160 general statement of the project's role in maintaining or enhancing the 161 competitiveness of the municipality; (13) findings that (A) the land and 162 buildings within the project area will be used principally for industrial 163 or business purposes; [that] (B) the plan is in accordance with the plan 164 of development for the municipality adopted by its planning 165 commission under section 8-23, as amended, and the plan of development of the regional planning agency adopted under section 8-166 35a, as amended, if any, for the region within which the municipality is 167 168 located; [that] (C) the plan is not inimical to [any] the state plan of 169 conservation and development adopted under chapter 297 and any other state-wide planning program objectives of the state or state 170 171 agencies as coordinated by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and 172 Management; [that] and (D) the project will contribute to the economic 173 welfare of the municipality and the state; and that to carry out and 174 administer the project, public action under this chapter is required; 175 and (14) a preliminary statement describing the proposed process for

acquiring each parcel of real property. Any plan [which] that has been prepared by a redevelopment agency under chapter 130 may be submitted by the development agency to the legislative body and to the commissioner in lieu of a plan initiated and prepared in accordance with this section, provided all other requirements of this chapter for obtaining the approval of the commissioner of the project plan are satisfied.

Sec. 503. Section 8-191 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) Before the development agency adopts a plan for a development project, (1) the planning commission of the municipality shall find that the plan is in accord with the plan of development for the municipality; and (2) the regional planning agency, if any, for the region within which such municipality is located shall find that such plan is in accord with the plan of development for such region, or if such agency fails to make a finding concerning [said] the plan within thirty-five days of receipt [thereof] of the plan by such agency, it shall be presumed that such agency does not disapprove of [such] the plan; and (3) the development agency shall hold at least one public hearing [thereon] on the plan. At least thirty-five days prior to any public hearing the development agency shall post the draft plan on the Internet web site of the development agency, if any. Upon approval by the development agency, the agency shall submit [such] the plan to the legislative body which shall vote to approve or disapprove the plan. After approval of the plan by the legislative body, the development agency shall submit the plan for approval to the commissioner. Notice of the time, place and subject of any public hearing held under this section shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in [such town] the municipality, such publication to be made not less than one week nor more than three weeks prior to the date set for the hearing. In the event the commissioner requires a substantial modification of the project plan before giving approval, then upon the completion of such modification such plan shall first have a public hearing and then be approved by the development agency and the

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210 legislative body. Any legislative body, agency or commission in

- 211 approving a plan for a development project shall specifically approve
- 212 the findings made [therein] in the plan.
- 213 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section with respect to
- 214 submission of a development project to and approval by the
- commissioner shall not apply to a project for which no grant has been
- 216 made under section 8-190 and no application for a grant is to be made
- 217 under section 8-195.
- Sec. 504. Section 8-200 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 219 following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage and
- applicable to property acquired on or after said date):
- 221 (a) A development plan may be modified at any time by the
- development agency, provided, if modified after the lease or sale of
- real property in the development project area, the modification must
- be consented to by the lessees or purchasers of such real property or
- 225 their successor or successors in interest affected by the proposed
- 226 modification. Where the proposed modification will substantially
- 227 change the development plan as previously approved, the
- 228 modification must be approved in the same manner as the
- 229 development plan.
- (b) If after three years from the date of approval of the development
- 231 plan the development agency has been unable to transfer by sale or
- lease at fair market value or fair rental value, as the case may be, the
- 233 whole or any part of the real property acquired in the project area to
- any person in accordance with the project plan, and no grant has been
- 235 made for such project pursuant to section 8-195, the municipality may,
- by vote of its legislative body, abandon the project plan and such real
- 237 property may be conveyed free of any restriction, obligation or
- 238 procedure imposed by the plan but shall be subject to all other local
- and state laws, ordinances or regulations, including, but not limited to,
- 240 any offer of sale required under subsection (e) of section 8-193, as
- 241 <u>amended by this act</u>.

Sec. 505. Section 32-224 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to property acquired on or after said date*):

- (a) Any municipality which has a planning commission may, by vote of its legislative body, designate an implementing agency to exercise the powers granted under sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive. Any municipality may, with the approval of the commissioner, designate a separate implementing agency for each municipal development project undertaken by such municipality pursuant to said sections.
- (b) The implementing agency may initiate a municipal development project by preparing and submitting a development plan to the commissioner. Such plan shall meet an identified public need and include: (1) A legal description of the real property within the boundaries of the project area; (2) a description of the present condition and uses of such real property; (3) a description of the process utilized by the agency to prepare the plan and a description of alternative approaches considered to achieve project objectives; (4) a description of the types and locations of land uses or building uses proposed for the project area; [(4)] (5) a description of the types and locations of present and proposed streets, sidewalks and sanitary, utility and other facilities and the types and locations of other proposed project improvements; [(5)] (6) statements of the present and proposed zoning classification and subdivision status of the project area and the areas adjacent to the project area; [(6)] (7) a plan for relocating project area occupants; [(7)] (8) a financing plan; [(8)] (9) an administrative plan; [(9)] (10) an environmental analysis, marketability and proposed land use study, or building use study if required by the commissioner; [(10)] (11) appraisal reports and title searches if required by the commissioner; [(11)] (12) a description of the [economic] public benefit of the project, including, but not limited to, (A) the number of jobs which the implementing agency anticipates would be created or retained by the project, (B) the estimated property tax benefits, [and] (C) the number and types of existing housing units

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in the municipality in which the project would be located, and in contiguous municipalities, which would be available to employees filling such jobs, [and (12)] (D) a general description of infrastructure improvements, including public access, facilities or use, that the implementing agency anticipates may be needed to implement the development plan; (E) a general description of the implementing agency's goals for blight remediation or, if known, environmental remediation; (F) a general description of any aesthetic improvements that the implementing agency anticipates may be generated by the project; (G) a general description of the project's intended role in increasing or sustaining market value of land in the municipality; (H) a general description of the project's intended role in assisting residents of the municipality to improve their standard of living; and (I) a general statement of the project's role in maintaining or enhancing the competitiveness of the municipality; (13) a finding that (A) the land and buildings within the boundaries of the project area will be used principally for manufacturing or other economic base business purposes or business support services; (B) the plan is in accordance with the plan of development for the municipality, if any, adopted by its planning commission under section 8-23, as amended, and the plan of development of the regional planning agency adopted under section 8-35a, as amended, if any, for the region within which the municipality is located; (C) the plan is not inimical to [any] the state plan of conservation and development adopted under chapter 297 and any other state-wide planning program objectives of the state or state agencies as coordinated by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; and (D) the project will contribute to the economic welfare of the municipality and the state and that to carry out and administer the project, public action under sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive, is required; and (14) a preliminary statement describing the proposed process for acquiring each parcel of real property. The provisions of this subsection with respect to submission of a development plan to and approval by the commissioner and with respect to a finding that the plan is not inimical to any state-wide planning program objectives of the state or its agencies shall not apply

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311 to a project for which no financial assistance has been given and no 312 application for financial assistance is to be made under section 32-223. 313 Any plan [which] that has been prepared under chapters 130, 132 or 314 588a may be submitted by the implementing agency to the legislative 315 body of the municipality and to the commissioner in lieu of a plan 316 initiated and prepared in accordance with this section, provided all 317 other requirements of sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive, for obtaining 318 the approval of the commissioner of the development plan are 319 satisfied. Any action taken in connection with the preparation and 320 adoption of such plan shall be deemed effective to the extent such 321 action satisfies the requirements of said sections.

(c) No plan shall be adopted unless the planning commission of the municipality finds that the plan is in accord with the plan of development, if any, for the municipality and the regional planning agency, if any, organized under chapter 127 for the region within which such municipality is located finds that such plan is in accord with the plan of development, if any, for such region. If the regional planning agency fails to make a finding concerning the plan within thirty-five days of receipt thereof, by such agency, it shall be presumed that such agency does not disapprove of the plan. The implementing agency shall hold at least one public hearing on the plan and shall cause notice of the time, place, and subject of any public hearing to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality not less than one week nor more than three weeks prior to the date of such public hearing. At least thirty-five days prior to the public hearing the implementing agency shall post the draft plan on the Internet web site of the implementing agency, if any. Upon adoption of the plan the implementing agency shall submit the plan to the legislative body of the municipality for approval or disapproval. Any approval by the implementing agency and legislative body of the municipality made under this section shall specifically provide for approval of any findings contained therein. After approval of the plan by the legislative body of the municipality, [such] the plan shall be submitted to the commissioner for his approval. If the commissioner

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requires a substantial modification of the plan as a condition of approval, the plan shall be subject to a public hearing and approval by the implementing agency and the legislative body of the municipality in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

- (d) A development plan may be modified at any time by the implementing agency, provided, if modified after the lease or sale of real property in the project area, the lessees or purchasers of such real property or their successor or successors in interest affected by the proposed modification shall consent to such modification. If the proposed modification will substantially alter the development plan as previously approved, the modification shall be subject to the approval of the local legislative body of the municipality and the commissioner in the same manner as approval of the development plan. The municipality may, by vote of its legislative body, abandon the development plan and convey such real property within the boundaries of the project area free of any restriction, obligation or procedure imposed by the plan subject to all other local and state laws, ordinances or regulations, including, but not limited to, any offer of sale required under subsection (i) of this section, if after three years from the date of approval of the plan the implementing agency has not transferred by sale or lease all or any part of the real property acquired in the project area to any person in accordance with the development plan and no grant of financial assistance under sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive, has been given for such project other than for activities related to the planning of the project pursuant to section 32-222.
- (e) The implementing agencies of two or more municipalities may, after approval by each legislative body thereof, jointly initiate a development project if the project area is to be located in one or more of such municipalities. Such implementing agencies, after approval by the commissioner of the development plan for the project if any state aid is to be requested under section 32-223, may enter into and amend subject to the approval of the commissioner, an agreement to jointly carry out the development plan. Such agreement may include provisions for furnishing municipal services to the project and sharing

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costs of and revenues from the project, including property tax and rental receipts. The development plan shall include a proposed form of the agreement to be entered into by the municipalities. Each municipality which is a party to an agreement may make appropriations and levy taxes in accordance with the provisions of the general statutes and may issue bonds in accordance with section 32-227 to further its obligations under the agreement.

(f) As used in this subsection, "public service facility" includes any sewer, pipe, main conduit, cable, wire, pole, tower, building or utility appliance owned or operated by an electric, gas, telephone, telegraph or water company. Whenever an implementing agency determines that the closing of any street or public right-of-way is provided for in a development plan adopted and approved in accordance with sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive, or where the carrying out of such a development plan, including the construction of new improvements, requires the temporary or permanent readjustment, relocation or removal of a public service facility from a street or public right-of-way, the implementing agency shall issue an appropriate order to the company owning or operating such facility. Such company shall permanently or temporarily readjust, relocate or remove the public service facility promptly in accordance with such order, provided an equitable share of the cost of such readjustment, relocation or removal, including the cost of installing and constructing a facility of equal capacity in a new location, shall be borne by the implementing agency. Such equitable share shall be fifty per cent of such cost after the deduction hereinafter provided. In establishing the equitable share of the cost to be borne by the implementing agency, there shall be deducted from the cost of the readjusted, relocated or removed facilities a sum based on a consideration of the value of materials salvaged from existing installations, the cost of the original installation, the life expectancy of the original facility and the unexpired term of such life use. The books and records of the company shall be made available for inspection by the implementing agency to determine the equitable share of the cost of such readjustment, relocation or removal.

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When any facility is removed from a street or public right-of-way to a private right-of-way, the implementing agency shall not pay for such private right-of-way. If the implementing agency and the company owning or operating such facility cannot agree upon the share of the cost to be borne by the implementing agency, such agency or the company may apply to the superior court for the judicial district within which the street or public right-of-way is situated, or, if the court is not in session, to any judge thereof, for a determination of the cost to be borne by the implementing agency. The court or the judge, after causing notice of the pendency of such application to be given to the other party, shall appoint a state referee to make such determination. The referee, having given at least ten days' notice to the interested parties of the time and place of the hearing, shall hear both parties, take such testimony as he may deem material and thereupon determine the amount of the cost to be borne by the implementing agency. The referee shall immediately report the amount to the court. If the report is accepted by the court, such determination shall, subject to right of appeal as in civil actions, be conclusive upon such parties.

(g) After approval of the development plan pursuant to sections 32-220 to 32-234, inclusive, the implementing agency may by purchase, lease, exchange or gift acquire or rent real property necessary or appropriate for the project as identified in the development plan and real property and interests therein for rights-of-way and other easements to and from the project area.

(h) (1) The implementing agency may, with the approval of the legislative body of the municipality, and in the name of the municipality, condemn in accordance with section 8-128 to 8-133, inclusive, as amended by this act, any real property necessary or appropriate for the project as identified in the development plan, including real property and interests in land for rights-of-way and other easements to and from the project area, except that no real property may be condemned pursuant to this section for the sole purpose of increasing local tax revenue. The legislative body shall not approve the use of condemnation by the implementing agency unless

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447 the legislative body has (A) considered the benefits to the public and

- 448 any private entity that will result from the municipal development
- 449 project and determined that the public benefits outweigh any private
- benefits, (B) determined that the current use of the real property
- 451 <u>cannot be feasibly integrated into the overall development plan, and</u>
- 452 (C) determined that the acquisition of the real property by
- 453 <u>condemnation is reasonably necessary to successfully achieve the</u>
- 454 <u>objectives of the development plan.</u>
- 455 (2) Before the legislative body approves any acquisition by
- 456 condemnation pursuant to this subsection, the legislative body shall
- 457 <u>conduct a public hearing on the acquisition. The municipality shall</u>
- 458 cause notice of the time, place and subject of the hearing to be
- 459 <u>published in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the</u>
- 460 <u>municipality not more than ten days before the date set for the hearing.</u>
- Notice of the time, place and subject of the hearing shall also be sent by
- 462 <u>first class mail to the owners of record of the real property to be</u>
- acquired by condemnation not less than ten days before the date of the
- 464 hearing.
- (3) (A) No parcel of real property may be acquired by condemnation
- 466 <u>under this subsection except by approval by vote of at least two-thirds</u>
- of the members of the legislative body of the municipality or, in the
- case of a municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting
- or a representative town meeting, the board of selectmen. Such
- 470 <u>approval shall be by (i) separate vote on each parcel of real property to</u>
- be acquired, or (ii) vote on one or more groups of such parcels,
- 472 provided each parcel to be acquired is identified for the purposes of a
- vote on a group of such parcels under this subparagraph.
- 474 (B) The municipality shall cause notice of any approved acquisition
- 475 under this subdivision to be published in a newspaper having a
- 476 <u>substantial circulation in the municipality not more than ten days after</u>
- 477 such approval.
- 478 (4) No parcel of real property may be acquired by condemnation

479 more than five years after the approval of the development plan unless 480 the implementing agency submits documentation to the legislative body sufficient for the legislative body to determine that acquisition of 481 482 the parcel is necessary to implement the development plan, except that 483 if there is a subsequent material change to the development plan, no 484 such parcel of real property may be acquired by condemnation more than five years after the date the material change to the plan is adopted 485 486 unless the implementing agency submits documentation to the 487 legislative body sufficient for the legislative body to determine that the 488 acquisition of the parcel is necessary to implement the development 489 plan.

(i) (1) On and after the effective date of this section, on the date a certificate of taking is filed pursuant to section 8-129, as amended by this act, for property acquired by eminent domain pursuant to this section, the development agency shall record with the certificate of taking separate findings that itemize the value of the real property and any structures or improvements on the real property so acquired.

(2) (A) If real property acquired on or after the effective date of this section is not used for the purpose for which it was acquired or for some other public use and is subsequently offered for sale, the real property shall be first offered for sale pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision to the person from whom the real property was acquired, or heirs of the person designated pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, if any, for a price not greater than the amount of compensation paid for such real property, after any appeal or settlement, less (i) the value of any structures or improvements removed from the real property by the development agency or its designee after the real property was acquired as set forth in the recorded findings, and (ii) the amount of any depreciation, as defined in section 45a-542z. After the municipality provides notice pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the municipality may not sell such property to a third party unless the municipality has permitted the person or named heirs six months during which to exercise the right to purchase the property, and an additional six months to finalize

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the purchase if the person or named heirs provide the municipality with notice of intent to purchase the property within the initial six month period.

- (B) For the purposes of any offer of sale pursuant to this 516 517 subdivision, the municipality shall provide a form to any person 518 whose property is acquired pursuant to this section to permit such 519 person to provide an address for notice of sale to be sent, or to provide 520 the name and address of an agent to receive such notice. Such form 521 shall be designed to permit the person to designate heirs of the person 522 who shall be eligible to purchase such property pursuant to this 523 subdivision. The person or agent shall update information in the form 524 in writing. If the person or agent does not provide or update the 525 information in the form in a manner that permits the municipality to 526 send notice of sale pursuant to this subsection, no such notice shall be 527 required.
- Sec. 506. Section 8-128 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to property acquired on or after said date*):
 - (a) Within a reasonable time after its approval of the redevelopment plan as [hereinbefore] provided in section 8-127, the redevelopment agency may proceed with the acquisition or rental of real property by purchase, lease, exchange or gift. The redevelopment agency may acquire real property by eminent domain with the approval of the legislative body of the municipality and in accordance with the provisions of sections 8-129 to 8-133, inclusive, and this section. The legislative body in its approval of a project under section 8-127 shall specify the time within which real property is to be acquired. The time for acquisition may be extended by the legislative body in accordance with section 48-6, upon request of the redevelopment agency, provided the owner of the real property consents to such request. Real property may be acquired previous to the adoption or approval of the project area redevelopment plan, provided the property acquired shall be located within an area designated on the general plan as an

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appropriate redevelopment area or within an area whose boundaries are defined by the planning commission as an appropriate area for a redevelopment project, and provided such acquisition shall be authorized by the legislative body. The redevelopment agency may clear, repair, operate or insure such property while it is in its possession or make site improvements essential to preparation for its use in accordance with the redevelopment plan.

- (b) (1) On and after the effective date of this section, on the date a certificate of taking is filed pursuant to section 8-129, as amended by this act, for property acquired by eminent domain pursuant to this section, the development agency shall record with the certificate of taking separate findings that itemize the value of the real property and any structures or improvements on the real property so acquired.
- (2) (A) If real property acquired on or after the effective date of this section is not used for the purpose for which it was acquired or for some other public use and is subsequently offered for sale, the real property shall be first offered for sale pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision to the person from whom the real property was acquired, or heirs of the person designated pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, if any, for a price not greater than the value documented in the recorded findings, less (i) the value of any structures or improvements removed from the real property by the development agency or its designee after the real property was acquired as set forth in the recorded findings, and (ii) the amount of any depreciation, as defined in section 45a-542z. After the municipality provides notice pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the municipality may not sell such property to a third party unless the municipality has permitted the person or named heirs six months during which to exercise the right to purchase the property, and an additional six months to finalize the purchase if the person or named heirs provide the municipality with notice of intent to purchase the property within the initial six month period.
- 578 (B) For the purposes of any offer of sale pursuant to this

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579 subdivision, the municipality shall provide a form to any person 580 whose property is acquired pursuant to this section to permit such person to provide an address for notice of sale to be sent, or to provide 581 582 the name and address of an agent to receive such notice. Such form 583 shall be designed to permit the person to designate heirs of the person 584 who shall be eligible to purchase such property pursuant to this 585 subdivision. The person or agent shall update information in the form 586 in writing. If the person or agent does not provide or update the 587 information in the form in a manner that permits the municipality to 588 send notice of sale pursuant to this subsection, no such notice shall be 589 required.

Sec. 507. Section 8-129 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to property acquired on or after said date*):

(a) The redevelopment agency shall determine the compensation to be paid to the persons entitled thereto for [such] real property [and] to be acquired by eminent domain pursuant to section 8-128. The redevelopment agency shall have two independent appraisals conducted on the real property and shall base the compensation on the greater amount indicated in the appraisals. Each appraisal shall be conducted by a state certified real estate appraiser without consultation with the appraiser conducting the other independent appraisal, and shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted standards of professional appraisal practice as described in the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice issued by the Appraisal Standards Board of the Appraisal Foundation pursuant to Title XI of FIRREA and any regulations adopted pursuant to section 20-504. The redevelopment agency shall file a statement of compensation, containing a description of the property to be taken and the names of all persons having a record interest therein and setting forth the amount of such compensation, and a deposit as provided in section 8-130, with the clerk of the superior court for the judicial district in which the property affected is located.

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(b) Upon filing such statement of compensation and deposit, the redevelopment agency shall forthwith cause to be recorded, in the office of the town clerk of each town in which the property is located, a copy of such statement of compensation, such recording to have the same effect and to be treated the same as the recording of a lis pendens, and shall forthwith give notice, as provided in this section, to each person appearing of record as an owner of property affected thereby and to each person appearing of record as a holder of any mortgage, lien, assessment or other encumbrance on such property or interest therein [(a)] (1) in the case of any such person found to be residing within this state, by causing a copy of such notice, with a copy of such statement of compensation, to be served upon each such person by a state marshal, constable or indifferent person, in the manner set forth in section 52-57, as amended, for the service of civil process, and [(b)] (2) in the case of any such person who is a nonresident of this state at the time of the filing of such statement of compensation and deposit or of any such person whose whereabouts or existence is unknown, by mailing to each such person a copy of such notice and of such statement of compensation, by registered or certified mail, directed to [his] such person's last-known address, and by publishing such notice and such statement of compensation at least twice in a newspaper published in the judicial district and having daily or weekly circulation in the town in which such property is located. Any such published notice shall state that it is notice to the widow or widower, heirs, representatives and creditors of the person holding such record interest, if such person is dead. If, after a reasonably diligent search, no last-known address can be found for any interested party, an affidavit stating such fact, and reciting the steps taken to locate such address, shall be filed with the clerk of the superior court and accepted in lieu of mailing to the last-known address.

(c) Not less than [twelve] thirty-five days or more than ninety days after such notice and such statement of compensation have been so served or so mailed and first published, the redevelopment agency shall file with the clerk of the superior court a return of notice setting

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forth the notice given and, upon receipt of such return of notice, such clerk shall, without any delay or continuance of any kind, issue a certificate of taking setting forth the fact of such taking, a description of all the property so taken and the names of the owners and of all other persons having a record interest therein. The redevelopment agency shall cause such certificate of taking to be recorded in the office of the town clerk of each town in which such property is located. Upon the recording of such certificate, title to such property in fee simple shall vest in the municipality, and the right to just compensation shall vest in the persons entitled thereto. At any time after such certificate of taking has been so recorded, the redevelopment agency may repair, operate or insure such property and enter upon such property, and take any action that is proposed with regard to such property by the project area redevelopment plan.

(d) The notice [referred to above] required in subsection (b) of this section shall state that (1) not less than [twelve] thirty-five days or more than ninety days after service or mailing and first publication thereof, the redevelopment agency shall file, with the clerk of the superior court for the judicial district in which such property is located, a return setting forth the notice given, (2) upon receipt of such return, such clerk shall issue a certificate for recording in the office of the town clerk of each town in which such property is located, (3) upon the recording of such certificate, title to such property shall vest in the municipality, the right to just compensation shall vest in the persons entitled thereto and the redevelopment agency may repair, operate or insure such property and enter upon such property and take any action that may be proposed with regard thereto by the project area redevelopment plan, and (4) such notice shall bind the widow or widower, heirs, representatives and creditors of each person named [therein] in the notice who then or thereafter may be dead.

(e) When any redevelopment agency acting on behalf of any municipality has acquired or rented real property by purchase, lease, exchange or gift in accordance with the provisions of this section, or in exercising its right of eminent domain has filed a statement of

680 compensation and deposit with the clerk of the superior court and has 681 caused a certificate of taking to be recorded in the office of the town 682 clerk of each town in which such property is located as provided in 683 this section, any judge of such court may, upon application and proof 684 of such acquisition or rental or such filing and deposit and such 685 recording, order such clerk to issue an execution commanding a state 686 marshal to put such municipality and the redevelopment agency, as its 687 agent, into peaceable possession of the property so acquired, rented or 688 condemned. The provisions of this [section] subsection shall not be 689 limited in any way by the provisions of chapter 832.

- Sec. 508. Section 8-132 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to property acquired on or after said date*):
 - (a) Any person claiming to be aggrieved by the statement of compensation filed by the redevelopment agency may, at any time within six months after the [same] statement of compensation has been filed, apply to the superior court for the judicial district in which such property is situated for a review of such statement of compensation so far as [the same] it affects such applicant. The court, after causing notice of the pendency of such application to be given to the redevelopment agency, may, with the consent of the parties or their attorneys, appoint a judge trial referee to make a review of the statement of compensation, except that the court shall, upon the motion of each party or their attorneys, refer the application to a judge appointed by the Chief Court Administrator to hear tax appeals pursuant to section 12-391. For the purposes of such application, review and appeal therefrom, and for the purposes of sections 52-192a to 52-195, inclusive, of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes, as amended by this act, such applicant shall be deemed a counterclaim plaintiff.
 - (b) If the court appoints a judge trial referee, the judge trial referee, after giving at least ten days' notice to the parties interested of the time and place of hearing, shall hear the applicant and the redevelopment

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agency, shall view the property and take such testimony as the judge trial referee deems material and shall thereupon revise such statement of compensation in such manner as the judge trial referee deems proper and forthwith report to the court. Such report shall contain a detailed statement of findings by the judge trial referee, sufficient to enable the court to determine the considerations upon which the judge trial referee's conclusions are based. The report of the judge trial referee shall take into account any evidence relevant to the fair market value of the property, including evidence of environmental condition and required environmental remediation. The judge trial referee shall make a separate finding for remediation costs and the property owner shall be entitled to a set-off of such costs in any pending or subsequent action to recover remediation costs for the property. The court shall review the report, and may reject it for any irregular or improper conduct in the performance of the duties of the judge trial referee. If the report is rejected, the court may appoint another judge trial referee to make such review and report. If the report is accepted, its statement of compensation shall be conclusive upon such owner and the redevelopment agency.

- (c) If the court does not appoint a judge trial referee, the court, after giving at least ten days' notice to the parties interested of the time and place of hearing, shall hear the applicant and the redevelopment agency and take such testimony as [it] the court deems material, may view the subject property, and shall make a finding regarding the statement of compensation. The findings of the court shall take into account any evidence relevant to the fair market value of the property, including evidence of environmental condition and required environmental remediation. The court shall make a separate finding for remediation costs and the property owner shall be entitled to a set-off of such costs in any pending or subsequent action to recover remediation costs for the property. The findings of the court shall be conclusive upon such owner and the redevelopment agency.
- (d) If no appeal to the Appellate Court is filed within the time allowed by law, or if an appeal is filed and the proceedings have

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terminated in a final judgment finding the amount due the property owner, the clerk shall send a certified copy of the statement of compensation and of the judgment to the redevelopment agency, which shall, upon receipt thereof, pay such property owner the amount due as compensation. The pendency of any such application for review shall not prevent or delay any action that is proposed with regard to such property by the project area redevelopment plan.

Sec. 509. Section 52-192a of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to applications filed on or after said date*):

(a) After commencement of any civil action based upon contract or seeking the recovery of money damages, whether or not other relief is sought, the plaintiff may, not earlier than one hundred eighty days after service of process is made upon the defendant in such action but not later than thirty days before trial, file with the clerk of the court a written offer of compromise signed by the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney, directed to the defendant or the defendant's attorney, offering to settle the claim underlying the action for a sum certain. For the purposes of this section, such plaintiff includes a counterclaim plaintiff under section 8-132, as amended by this act. The plaintiff shall give notice of the offer of compromise to the defendant's attorney or, if the defendant is not represented by an attorney, to the defendant himself or herself. Within thirty days after being notified of the filing of the offer of compromise and prior to the rendering of a verdict by the jury or an award by the court, the defendant or the defendant's attorney may file with the clerk of the court a written acceptance of the offer of compromise agreeing to settle the claim underlying the action for the sum certain specified in the plaintiff's offer of compromise. Upon such filing and the receipt by the plaintiff of such sum certain, the plaintiff shall file a withdrawal of the action with the clerk and the clerk shall record the withdrawal of the action against the defendant accordingly. If the offer of compromise is not accepted within thirty days and prior to the rendering of a verdict by the jury or an award by

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the court, the offer of compromise shall be considered rejected and not subject to acceptance unless refiled. Any such offer of compromise and any acceptance of the offer of compromise shall be included by the clerk in the record of the case.

- (b) In the case of any action to recover damages resulting from personal injury or wrongful death, whether in tort or in contract, in which it is alleged that such injury or death resulted from the negligence of a health care provider, an offer of compromise pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall state with specificity all damages then known to the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney upon which the action is based. At least sixty days prior to filing such an offer, the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney shall provide the defendant or the defendant's attorney with an authorization to disclose medical records that meets the privacy provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-191) (HIPAA), as amended from time to time, or regulations adopted thereunder, and disclose any and all expert witnesses who will testify as to the prevailing professional standard of care. The plaintiff shall file with the court a certification that the plaintiff has provided each defendant or such defendant's attorney with all documentation supporting such damages.
- (c) After trial the court shall examine the record to determine whether the plaintiff made an offer of compromise which the defendant failed to accept. If the court ascertains from the record that the plaintiff has recovered an amount equal to or greater than the sum certain specified in the plaintiff's offer of compromise, the court shall add to the amount so recovered eight per cent annual interest on said amount, except in the case of a counterclaim plaintiff under section 8-132, as amended by this act, the court shall add to the amount so recovered eight per cent annual interest on the difference between the amount so recovered and the sum certain specified in the counterclaim plaintiff's offer of compromise. The interest shall be computed from the date the complaint in the civil action or application under section 8-132, as amended by this act, was filed with the court if the offer of

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compromise was filed not later than eighteen months from the filing of such complaint <u>or application</u>. If such offer was filed later than eighteen months from the date of filing of the complaint <u>or application</u>, the interest shall be computed from the date the offer of compromise was filed. The court may award reasonable attorney's fees in an amount not to exceed three hundred fifty dollars, and shall render judgment accordingly. This section shall not be interpreted to abrogate the contractual rights of any party concerning the recovery of attorney's fees in accordance with the provisions of any written contract between the parties to the action.

Sec. 510. Section 8-268 of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and applicable to property acquired on or after said date*):

(a) (1) Whenever a program or project undertaken by a state agency or under the supervision of a state agency will result in the displacement of any person on or after July 6, 1971, the head of such state agency shall make payment to any displaced person, upon proper application as approved by such agency head, for [(1)] (A) actual reasonable expenses in moving [himself, his] such displaced person and such displaced person's family, business, farm operation or other personal property, [(2)] (B) actual direct losses of tangible personal property as a result of moving or discontinuing a business or farm operation, but not to exceed an amount equal to the reasonable expenses that would have been required to relocate such property, as determined by the state agency, [and (3)] (C) actual reasonable expenses in searching for a replacement business or farm, [provided, whenever and (D) actual reasonable expenses necessary to reestablish a displaced farm, nonprofit organization or small business, as defined in 49 CFR 24.2, as amended from time to time, at its new site, not to exceed ten thousand dollars. With respect to a displaced business, payments under this subsection shall be adjusted to reflect any increase or decrease in good will and such increase or decrease in good will shall be calculated separately. As used in this subsection, "good will" means the benefits that accrue to a business from its location,

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reputation for dependability, skill or quality and any other circumstances resulting in probable retention of old or acquisition of new patronage. With respect to real property acquired pursuant to section 8-193, as amended by this act, if a court is satisfied that an application filed by a displaced business concerning the calculation of good will under this subsection sets forth a prima facie case for granting an increased payment for good will, the burden of proving that such increased payment should not be ordered shall be on the agency that made the calculation.

- (2) Whenever any tenant in any dwelling unit is displaced as the result of the enforcement of any code to which this section is applicable by any town, city or borough or agency thereof, the landlord of such dwelling unit shall be liable for any payments made by such town, city or borough pursuant to this section or by the state pursuant to subsection (b) of section 8-280, and the town, city or borough or the state may place a lien on any real property owned by such landlord to secure repayment to the town, city or borough or the state of such payments, which lien shall have the same priority as and shall be filed, enforced and discharged in the same manner as a lien for municipal taxes under chapter 205.
- (b) Any displaced person eligible for payments under subsection (a) of this section who is displaced from a dwelling and who elects to accept the payments authorized by this subsection in lieu of the payments authorized by subsection (a) of this section may receive a moving expense allowance, determined according to a schedule established by the state agency, not to exceed [three] <u>six</u> hundred dollars and a dislocation allowance of [two] four hundred dollars.
- (c) Any displaced person eligible for payments under subsection (a) of this section who is displaced from [his] the person's place of business or from [his] the person's farm operation and who elects to accept the payment authorized by this subsection in lieu of the payment authorized by subsection (a) of this section, may receive a fixed payment in an amount equal to the average annual net earnings

of the business or farm operation, except that such payment shall not be less than two thousand five hundred dollars nor more than [ten] twenty thousand dollars. In the case of a business, (1) no payment shall be made under this subsection unless the state agency is satisfied that the business [(1)] (A) cannot be relocated without a substantial loss of its existing patronage, and [(2)] (B) is not a part of a commercial enterprise having at least one other establishment not being acquired by the state, which is engaged in the same or similar business; and (2) payments under this subsection shall be adjusted to reflect any increase or decrease in good will and such increase or decrease in good will shall be calculated separately. For purposes of this subsection, [the term] "average annual net earnings" means one half of any net earnings of the business or farm operation, before federal, state and local income taxes, during the two taxable years immediately preceding the taxable year in which such business or farm operation moves from the real property acquired for such project, or during such other period as such agency determines to be more equitable for establishing such earnings, and includes any compensation paid by the business or farm operation to the owner, [his] the owner's spouse or [his] the owner's dependents during such period; and "good will" means the benefits that accrue to a business from its location, reputation for dependability, skill or quality and any other circumstances resulting in probable retention of old or acquisition of new patronage. With respect to real property acquired pursuant to section 8-193, as amended by this act, if a court is satisfied that an application filed by a displaced business concerning the calculation of good will under this subsection sets forth a prima facie case for granting an increased payment for good will, the burden of proving that such increased payment should not be ordered shall be on the agency that made the calculation.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the head of the state agency shall make relocation payments as provided under the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, 42 USC 4601 et seq. and any subsequent

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916 amendments thereto and regulations promulgated thereunder if

- 917 payments under said act and regulations would be greater than
- 918 payments under this section and sections 8-269 and 8-270, as amended
- 919 by this act.
- 920 Sec. 511. Section 8-269 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 921 following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage and
- 922 applicable to property acquired on or after said date):
- 923 (a) In addition to payments otherwise authorized by this chapter,
- 924 the state agency shall make an additional payment not in excess of
- 925 [fifteen thousand] twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars to any
- 926 displaced person who is displaced from a dwelling actually owned
- 927 and occupied by such displaced person for not less than one hundred
- 928 [and] eighty days prior to the initiation of negotiations for the
- 929 acquisition of the property. Such additional payment shall include the
- 930 following elements:
- 931 (1) The amount, if any, which when added to the acquisition cost of
- 932 the dwelling acquired, equals the reasonable cost of a comparable
- 933 replacement dwelling which is a decent, safe and sanitary dwelling
- 934 adequate to accommodate such displaced person, reasonably
- 935 accessible to public services and places of employment and available
- 936 on the private market. All determinations required to carry out this
- 937 [subparagraph] subdivision shall be made by the applicable
- 938 regulations issued pursuant to section 8-273;
- 939 (2) [the] <u>The</u> amount, if any, which will compensate such displaced
- 940 person for any increased interest cost which such person is required to
- 941 pay for financing the acquisition of any such comparable replacement
- 942 dwelling. Such amount shall be paid only if the dwelling acquired was
- 943 encumbered by a bona fide mortgage which was a valid lien on such
- 944 dwelling for not less than one hundred [and] eighty days prior to the
- 945 initiation of negotiations for the acquisition of such dwelling. Such
- amount shall be equal to the excess in the aggregate interest and other
- 947 debt service costs of that amount of the principal of the mortgage on

the replacement dwelling which is equal to the unpaid balance of the mortgage on the acquired dwelling, over the remainder term of the mortgage on the acquired dwelling, reduced to discounted present value. The discount rate shall be the prevailing interest rate on savings deposits by commercial banks in the general area in which the replacement dwelling is located; and

- (3) [reasonable] <u>Reasonable</u> expenses incurred by such displaced person for evidence of title, recording fees and other closing costs incident to the purchase of the replacement dwelling, but not including prepaid expenses.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the head of the state agency shall make relocation payments as provided under the federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, 42 USC 4601 et seq. and any subsequent amendments thereto and regulations promulgated thereunder if payments under said act and regulations would be greater than payments under this section and sections 8-268 and 8-270, as amended by this act.
 - [(b)] (c) The additional [payment] payments authorized by this section shall be made only to such a displaced person who purchases and occupies a replacement dwelling which is decent, safe and sanitary not later than the end of the one year period beginning on the date on which [he] such displaced person receives final payment of all costs of the acquired dwelling, or on the date on which [he] such displaced person moves from the acquired dwelling, whichever is the later date.
- 974 Sec. 512. Section 8-270 of the general statutes is repealed and the 975 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and* 976 *applicable to property acquired on or after said date*):
- 977 (a) In addition to amounts otherwise authorized by this chapter, a 978 state agency shall make a payment to or for any displaced person 979 displaced from any dwelling not eligible to receive a payment under

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section 8-269, as amended by this act, which dwelling was actually and lawfully occupied by such displaced person for not less than ninety days prior to the initiation of negotiations for acquisition of such dwelling under the program or project which results in such person being displaced. Such payment shall be either (1) the amount necessary to enable such displaced person to lease or rent for a period not to exceed four years, a decent, safe, and sanitary dwelling of standards adequate to accommodate such person in areas not generally less desirable [in] with regard to public utilities and public and commercial facilities, and reasonably accessible to [his] such displaced person's place of employment, but not to exceed [four thousand] five thousand two hundred fifty dollars, or (2) the amount necessary to enable such displaced person to make a [downpayment] down payment, including reasonable expenses incurred by such displaced person for evidence of title, recording fees, and other closing costs incident to the purchase of a decent, safe, and sanitary dwelling of standards adequate to accommodate such person in areas not generally less desirable [in] with regard to public utilities and public and commercial facilities, but not to exceed [four thousand dollars, except that if such amount exceeds two thousand dollars, such person must equally match any such amount in excess of two thousand dollars in making the downpayment, and provided, whenever five thousand two hundred fifty dollars. Whenever any tenant in any dwelling unit is displaced as the result of the enforcement of any code to which this section is applicable by any town, city or borough or agency thereof, the landlord of such dwelling unit shall be liable for any payments made by such town, city or borough pursuant to this section or by the state pursuant to subsection (b) of section 8-280, and the town, city or borough or the state may place a lien on any real property owned by such landlord to secure repayment to the town, city or borough or the state of such payments, which lien shall have the same priority as and shall be filed, enforced and discharged in the same manner as a lien for municipal taxes under chapter 205.

1013 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the head of the

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1014 state agency shall make relocation payments as provided under the

- 1015 <u>federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition</u>
- 1016 Policies Act of 1970, 42 USC 4601 et seq. and any subsequent
- 1017 amendments thereto and regulations promulgated thereunder if
- 1018 payments under said act and regulations would be greater than
- payments under this section and sections 8-268 and 8-269, as amended
- by this act.
- Sec. 513. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) No person who negotiates
- 1022 the acquisition or rental of real property may represent in such
- negotiation that the person has the power to acquire the property by
- 1024 eminent domain unless the person has such power.
- 1025 (b) Any violation of subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed an
- 1026 unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-
- 1027 110b of the general statutes.
- Sec. 514. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2006) (a) There is established an
- 1029 Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights which shall be within the
- 1030 Office of Policy and Management for administrative purposes only.
- 1031 The Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights shall be under the
- 1032 direction of an Ombudsman for Property Rights who shall be
- appointed in accordance with section 515 of this act.
- 1034 (b) The Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights shall:
- 1035 (1) Develop and maintain expertise in, and understanding of, the
- 1036 (A) provisions of the federal and state constitutions governing the
- taking of private property and provisions of state law authorizing a
- 1038 public agency to take private property, and (B) case law interpreting
- 1039 such provisions;
- 1040 (2) At the request of a public agency, assist the public agency in
- applying constitutional and statutory provisions concerning eminent
- 1042 domain;
- 1043 (3) At the request of a public agency, provide assistance in

- 1044 analyzing actions that have potential eminent domain implications;
- 1045 (4) At the request of a private property owner, provide assistance 1046 concerning eminent domain procedures;
- 1047 (5) Identify state or local governmental actions that have potential 1048 eminent domain implications and, if appropriate, advise the 1049 appropriate public agency about such implications;
- 1050 (6) Provide information to private citizens, civic groups and other 1051 interested parties about eminent domain law and their rights with 1052 respect to eminent domain;
 - (7) Mediate disputes between private property owners and public agencies concerning the use of eminent domain or related relocation assistance as provided in section 16 of this act; and
 - (8) Recommend to the General Assembly changes that, in the opinion of the Ombudsman for Property Rights, should be made to the general statutes related to eminent domain powers and procedures.
- 1059 (c) For the purposes of this section and sections 515 to 521, inclusive, 1060 of this act, "public agency" means a public agency, as defined in section 1061 1-200 of the general statutes, with the power to acquire property 1062 through eminent domain and includes an entity authorized to acquire 1063 property through eminent domain on behalf of the public agency.
- 1064 Sec. 515. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2006) The Ombudsman for Property Rights shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with sections 4-5 to 4-8, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act. The 1067 Ombudsman for Property Rights shall be an elector of the state with expertise and experience in the field of real estate sales, real estate 1069 appraisals or land use regulation. The Ombudsman for Property 1070 Rights shall not have been employed or served in an official capacity with respect to any eminent domain procedure for a period of one year 1072 prior to appointment.
- 1073 Sec. 516. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2006) (a) The Ombudsman for

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Property Rights shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to establish a mediation procedure for requests to mediate eminent domain or relocation assistance disputes filed with the Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights. Such regulations shall also establish criteria to be used by the Ombudsman for Property Rights in determining whether to accept or reject a request for mediation.

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- (b) If a request to mediate an eminent domain or relocation assistance dispute is filed with the Ombudsman for Property Rights pursuant to this section, any party to the dispute may file a motion in the superior court to stay any related action during the pendency of mediation under this section or the consideration of a request for such mediation under this section. The court shall grant such motion for cause shown and the order shall provide that the stay shall terminate upon motion of either party or, in the event no motion is filed, on the earlier of: (1) The resolution of the dispute through mediation; or (2) the earlier of (A) the expiration of any period for conducting mediation pursuant to regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or (B) a decision by the Ombudsman for Property Rights to deny a request for mediation.
- Sec. 517. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) Each public agency shall comply with reasonable requests of the Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights for information and assistance.
- Sec. 518. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) No employee of the Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights may:
- 1099 (1) Be employed by, or hold a position on, any public agency other 1100 than the Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights;
- 12) (2) Receive or have the right to receive, directly or indirectly, remuneration under a compensation arrangement with respect to an eminent domain procedure; or
- 1104 (3) Knowingly accept employment with a public agency for a period

of one year following termination of that person's services with the Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights.

Sec. 519. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) The Ombudsman for Property Rights may apply for and accept grants, gifts and bequests of funds from other states, federal and interstate agencies and independent authorities and private firms, individuals and foundations, for the purpose of carrying out the responsibilities of the Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights.

Sec. 520. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) There is established, within the General Fund, an Ombudsman for Property Rights account that shall be a separate nonlapsing account. Any funds received under this section shall, upon deposit in the General Fund, be credited to said account and may be used by the Office of Ombudsman for Property Rights in the performance of its duties.

Sec. 521. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2006) Each public agency seeking to acquire property by eminent domain shall: (1) Before filing a statement of compensation pursuant to section 8-129 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or otherwise initiating an eminent domain action, make a reasonable effort to negotiate with the property owner for the purchase of the property; and (2) as early in the negotiation process for the real property as practicable, but not later than fourteen days before filing such statement of compensation or otherwise initiating the eminent domain action, unless the court for good cause allows a shorter period: (A) Advise the property owner of the services provided by the Ombudsman for Property Rights appointed pursuant to section 515 of this act, and the mediation available under section 516 of this act, (B) provide the name, address and telephone number of the Ombudsman for Property Rights, and (C) provide the property owner with a written statement explaining that oral representations or promises made during the negotiation process are not binding on the public agency seeking to acquire the property by eminent domain. The information provided under subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of this subdivision shall be in such form as the Ombudsman for Property

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- 1138 Rights prescribes.
- 1139 Sec. 522. Section 4-5 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 1140 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2006*):
- 1141 As used in sections 4-6, 4-7, as amended, and 4-8, the term
- "department head" means Secretary of the Office of Policy and 1142
- 1143 Management, Commissioner of Administrative Services,
- 1144 Commissioner of Revenue Services, Banking Commissioner,
- 1145 Commissioner of Children and Families, Commissioner of Consumer
- 1146 Protection, Commissioner of Correction, Commissioner of Economic
- 1147 Community Development, State Board of
- 1148 Commissioner of Emergency Management and Homeland Security,
- 1149 Commissioner of Environmental Protection, Commissioner
- 1150 Agriculture, Commissioner of Public Health, Insurance Commissioner,
- 1151 Labor Commissioner, Liquor Control Commission, Commissioner of
- 1152 Mental Health and Addiction Services, Commissioner of Public Safety,
- 1153 Commissioner of Social Services, Commissioner of Mental Retardation,
- 1154 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Commissioner of Transportation,
- 1155 Commissioner of Public Works, Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs,
- 1156 Commissioner of Health Care Access, Chief Information Officer, the
- 1157 chairperson of the Public Utilities Control Authority, the executive
- 1158 director of the Board of Education and Services for the Blind, [and] the
- 1159 executive director of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and
- Tourism and the Ombudsman for Property Rights." 1160